

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of the subject application. Claims 1-70 are pending in this application.

The claims are subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 as containing five distinct inventions:

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-3, 41-42 and 55-56, drawn to image segmentation, classified in class 382, subclass 173.
 - II. Claims 1, 4-8, 26-31, 41, 43-45, 51, 55, 57-59 and 67, drawn to transform coding, classified in class 382, subclass 248.
 - III. Claims 1, 9-16, 41, 46-49, 55 and 60-63 drawn to trainable classifiers, classified in class 382, subclass 159.
 - IV. Claims 1, 17-21, 37-41, 50, 53-55, 64 and 69-70, drawn to image transformation or preprocessing, classified in class 382, subclass 276.
 - V. Claims 1, 22-25, 32-36, 41, 52, 55, 65-66 and 68, drawn to determining amount an image is rotated or skewed, classified in class 382, subclass 289.

Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, to prosecute Group II (claims 1, 4-8, 26-31, 41, 43-45, 51, 55, 57-59, and 67) in the event that the restriction requirement is maintained.

Applicant traverses because the Restriction Requirement holds five Groups of claims distinct as separate inventions, yet the same claims are included in

multiple Groups. For example, claim 1 appears in all five Groups; claim 41 appears in all five Groups, etc. If the same claim is in all Groups, then the Groups cannot be distinct inventions.

Nonetheless, to streamline prosecution and relieve the Examiner's burden, Applicant invites the Examiner to go ahead and proceed examining elected Group II.

Claim 54

Applicant amends Claim 54 to repair an incorrect dependency noticed by the Examiner. The dependency of claim 54 is hereby amended to depend on claim 53 instead of claim 52. After its amendment, Applicant withdraws claim 54 as being directed to a non-elected invention.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that the elected claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests issuance of the subject application.

Respectfully Submitted,

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